

REMARKS**Request for Clarification or Correction of Office Action and Setting of New Period to Respond**

Applicant respectfully requests clarification or correction of an Office Action mailed May 19, 2004. On page 3 of the Office Action, it is stated generally that Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,226,005 to Laferriere (Laferriere) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,556,196, to Blanz (Blanz). However, turning to pages 4-9 of the Office Action, specific rejections of the claims are made over Laferriere in view of "Chen." No reference to Chen was listed on the "Notices of References Cited" in the Office Action.

Applicant wishes to note that a reference to Chen was relied upon in an earlier Office Action dated March 26, 2003. However, that reference was a portion of a book to which the column and line numbers listed on pages 4-9 do not match. Another reference to Chen was listed on the "Notices of References Cited" in the Office Action date March 26, 2003. Nonetheless, Applicant does not wish to appear presumptuous in speculating as to the intentions of the Examiner.

In view of what may be an incorrect citation of a reference under MPEP § 707.05(g), Applicant hereby respectfully request that the Examiner clarify or correct the Office Action and set a new period for Applicant to respond as specified under MPEP § 710.06.

Respectfully submitted,



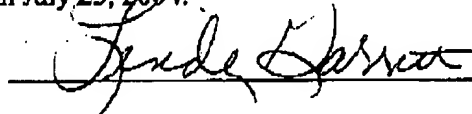
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FJB/RMA:lrg

FAX CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on July 23, 2004.

Date: July 23, 2004



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